

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 460

Introduced by Assembly Member House

February 24, 1997

An act to add Article 7 (commencing with Section 4920) to Chapter 11 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to veterinary medicine, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 460, as introduced, House. Veterinary medicine: special license: commercial poultry industry.

Existing law provides that it is generally unlawful for any person to practice veterinary medicine or any branch thereof in this state unless at the time of so doing, the person holds a valid, unexpired, and unrevoked license issued by the Veterinary Medical Board. Existing law sets forth various licensing requirements to practice veterinary medicine. These licensing provisions require applicants to pay examination and licensing fees that are collected by the board and credited to the Veterinary Medical Board Contingent Fund, a continuously appropriated fund.

This bill would authorize the issuance of a special license, for the practice of veterinary medicine in the commercial poultry industry, as defined. The bill would prescribe requirements to obtain the special license to practice veterinary medicine in the commercial poultry industry. Since the bill would authorize an increase in the amount of moneys in the

Veterinary Medical Board Contingent Fund, it would, thereby, make an appropriation.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 7 (commencing with Section 4920) is added to Chapter 11 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, to read:

Article 7. Special License for Commercial Poultry Industry

4920. (a) For purposes of this article, the board is authorized to issue a special license limited to the practice of veterinary medicine in the commercial poultry industry, as defined in subdivision (h). In order to qualify for this special license, the applicant shall meet all qualifications set forth by the board to include, but not be limited to, the following:

(1) The applicant shall be employed by, or under contract to, an employer or enterprise that is engaged primarily in the poultry industry on a commercial basis.

(2) The applicant shall submit any information that the board finds necessary and sufficient to satisfy the board that the applicant is currently employed in the industry on a full-time basis or under contract to an employer to provide veterinary medical advice, consultation, or practice necessary to the industry.

(3) The applicant shall be a graduate of an American Veterinary Medical Association accredited college of veterinary medicine or possess an Educational Commission for Foreign Veterinary Graduates certificate issued by the American Veterinary Medical Association.

(4) The applicant shall hold a current general license to practice veterinary medicine issued in this state or another state or jurisdiction. That license shall not be under discipline or have disciplinary action pending at the time of application.

1 (5) (A) The applicant shall be a recognized diplomate
2 in the American College of Poultry Veterinarians.

3 (B) Any applicant employed by or under contract to
4 an employer or enterprise that is engaged primarily in
5 the poultry industry on a commercial basis prior to
6 January 1, 1998, shall not be subject to the requirement of
7 subparagraph (A).

8 (b) If approved by the board, the special license may
9 be issued for a period not to exceed two years. Subject to
10 other restrictions and requirements imposed by
11 regulation of the board, the license may be renewed
12 biennially if the applicant submits information
13 satisfactory to the board that the applicant remains under
14 the employment of the employer designated in the initial
15 application, or is currently employed by, or under
16 contract to, an employer or enterprise that is engaged
17 primarily in the poultry industry on a commercial basis.

18 (c) In order to remain eligible for renewal, in the
19 event the licensee transfers employment to another
20 employer or enterprise, the licensee shall notify the board
21 of that change in status within thirty (30) days thereof.
22 Failure to notify the board of that change in employment
23 or status shall be sufficient grounds for refusing to renew
24 the special license and disciplinary action pursuant to
25 subdivision (d).

26 (d) The special license shall be subject to the same
27 disciplinary actions as any other license issued to practice
28 veterinary medicine in the state.

29 (e) Nothing contained in this section shall be
30 construed as limiting the board's authority to provide
31 other requirements for obtaining the special license as
32 the board may find necessary or appropriate under its
33 rulemaking authority.

34 (f) (1) Any person desiring a special license to
35 practice in the commercial poultry industry shall make a
36 written application to the board on forms provided by the
37 board upon the request of the applicant.

38 (2) Each application shall contain a statement that
39 representations made therein by the applicant,
40 employer, or both, are true, correct, and contain no

1 material omissions of fact to the best knowledge and
2 belief of the person making the application and the
3 employer.

4 (3) Each applicant shall be responsible for having a
5 National Disciplinary Database Report submitted
6 directly to the board office by the agency responsible for
7 the maintenance of that data base.

8 (g) An applicant for a special license pursuant to this
9 section shall be subject to an initial license fee, renewal
10 fees, and any other fees that the board deems applicable
11 that are imposed pursuant to Section 4905.

12 (h) "Commercial poultry industry" means the
13 industry involved in all aspects of hatching, raising, and
14 processing of chickens, turkeys, pheasants, quail, and
15 water fowl intended for the production of
16 government-inspected meat or eggs. Commercial
17 breeding of the same species for the production of
18 government-inspected meat or eggs is also included in
19 this definition.

